

Dear Sirs,

I find that Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and should be illegal.

It used to be that the public media (i.e. TV and Radio) had to present a fair and balanced picture. Given the new laws they no longer have to be. They can lie, distort, and cover up as much as they wish. This is wrong. What makes it worse is that one group can "own" so much of OUR airwaves. This is wrong.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.